

in 1991. In 2006, *The Economist* recognized him as the “Edison of our age.” At the time of his death in 2012, he was credited on more than 300 publications and had received over 20 major awards and honorary degrees. Throughout his life, however, Mr. Ovshinsky displayed as much vigor for fighting for justice outside his laboratory as within. His efforts contributed to the introduction of affordable housing in his affluent neighborhood in Birmingham, MI, and he was a proud member of the Mechanist’s Union, as well as an early supporter of Walter P. Reuther and the United Auto Workers. It is an honor to recognize someone whose work not only helped usher the world into the modern age, but was also based in a belief that each of us has a responsibility to serve our community and leave the world a better place for generations to come.●

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH STEVENS FAMILY REUNION

● Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I would like to recognize and honor an exemplary Oregonian family who will soon gather for their 125th family reunion. Family reunions are difficult to organize and even harder to make lasting traditions. Nonetheless, since 1891 the children of Hanson and Lavina Stevens have managed to hold yearly family reunions, with the exception of one missed reunion during the First World War—truly an amazing feat.

In many ways, the history of the Stevens family is the history of the State of Oregon. In 1852, the Stevens family decided to take advantage of the Donation Land Claim Act of 1850, which encouraged settlement of the Oregon Territory. Hanson and Lavina Stevens, their eight children and a wagon loaded with vital supplies traveled the treacherous Oregon Trail.

Twenty-two other wagons traveled alongside the Stevens family and undertook the Oregon Trail’s most dangerous migration year ever recorded. While all of the other families decided to stop near Fort Bridger, WY, in search of gold, Hanson Stevens concluded that mining camps were not suitable for raising his family. Instead, the Stevens, like thousands of other pioneers, chose to settle in Oregon. They chose the “Promised Land.” Ever since, the Stevens and their descendants have contributed to the territory and then the State of Oregon.

In June of 1891, the entire family gathered for the birthday of the family patriarch at the time, Isaac Stevens. That tradition continued on each year, and eventually turned from a birthday party into a more formal family reunion.

Today the Stevens decedents are six clans strong, and they rotate the responsibility for hosting their memorable reunions. This year the Ringo Clan will be hosting the 125th reunion on July 19, 2015 at Champoege Park in St. Paul, OR.

The family tells me that each year the various clans all give a report to the family, and the details are recorded in a leather-bound journal. As you can imagine, this journal traces not just the history of the Stevens family but also provides a view into the history of Oregon and the United States.

And that is part of what makes family reunions so wonderful. They don’t just connect us to the aunts, uncles and cousins we don’t see very often; they also connect us to our past, our heritage. Family reunions are a place to share family lore, shared values, and traditions.

I am thrilled to recognize the Stevens family 125th annual reunion. I hope to see the Stevens family tradition continue for many, many years to come.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:32 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 802. An act to authorize the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to provide assistance to support the rights of women and girls in developing countries, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 336. An act to direct the Administrator of General Services, on behalf of the Archivist of the United States, to convey certain Federal property located in the State of Alaska to the Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska.

H.R. 404. An act to authorize early repayment of obligations to the Bureau of Reclamation within the Northport Irrigation District in the State of Nebraska.

H.R. 533. An act to revoke the charter of incorporation of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma at the request of that tribe, and for other purposes.

H.R. 944. An act to reauthorize the National Estuary Program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 979. An act to designate a mountain in the John Muir Wilderness of the Sierra National Forest as “Sky Point”.

H.R. 1168. An act to amend the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention

Act to require background checks before foster care placements are ordered in tribal court proceedings, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1335. An act to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to provide flexibility for fishery managers and stability for fishermen, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1493. An act to protect and preserve international cultural property at risk due to political instability, armed conflict, or natural or other disasters, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 48. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 336. An act to direct the Administrator of General Services, on behalf of the Archivist of the United States, to convey certain Federal property located in the State of Alaska to the Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 404. An act to authorize early repayment of obligations to the Bureau of Reclamation within the Northport Irrigation District in the State of Nebraska; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 533. An act to revoke the charter of incorporation of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma at the request of that tribe, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 944. An act to reauthorize the National Estuary Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 979. An act to designate a mountain in the John Muir Wilderness of the Sierra National Forest as “Sky Point”; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1335. An act to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to provide flexibility for fishery managers and stability for fishermen, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 1493. An act to protect and preserve international cultural property at risk due to political instability, armed conflict, or natural or other disasters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1752. A communication from the Acting Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Approval Threshold for Time-and-Materials and Labor-Hour Contracts” (RIN0750-AI56) (DFARS Case 2014-D020) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the